IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): An optical information recording medium, comprising:

data overlapping a visible second information on a first information to form a sequence of pits,

the second information being expressed in a predetermined area in a radial direction and an angular direction on the optical information recording medium, and the second information being expressed according to a change of a pit width, a change of a pit length, or a change of width within only a portion of the length of the pit.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 22, wherein the pit length varies in accordance with the second information on the basis of the first information.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 22, wherein the second information is expressed by a positional information of a polar coordinate with respect to the optical information recording medium.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 22, wherein the pit change based on the second information varies gradually according to a time axis.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 25, wherein a transition area of the pit change based on the second information ranges from 0.1 mm to 1 mm.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): An optical information recording medium, comprising:

data overlapping a visible second information on a first information to form a sequence of pits,

the second information being expressed in a predetermined area in a radial direction and an angular direction on the optical information recording medium, the second information being expressed according to a change of a pit width, a change of a pit length, or a change of width within only a portion of the length of the pit,

a plurality of pits being formed so that the first information is expressed, and the second information is expressed by a pit having a pit width selected from predetermined plural widths, and

a watermark pattern or visible image of the second information being expressed on the optical information recording medium as the information signal is reproduced.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 27, wherein the pit length varies in accordance with the second information on the basis of the first information.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 27, wherein the second information is expressed by a positional information of a polar coordinate with respect to the optical information recording medium.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 27, wherein the pit change based on the second information varies gradually according to a time axis.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The medium according to Claim 30, wherein a transition area of the pit change based on the second information ranges from 0.1 mm to 1 mm.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A method of duplicating a master optical information recording medium, the method comprising steps of:

recording data overlapping a visible second information on a first information on the master optical information recording medium by intermittently irradiating a laser beam to form a sequence of pits;

recording the second information in a predetermined area in a radial direction and an angular direction on the master optical information recording medium, wherein the second information is recorded according to a change of a pit width based on a change of power of the laser beam, a change of a pit length based on an on/off control of the laser beam, or a change of width within only a portion of the length of the pit based on a change in the vicinity of the on/off control of the laser beam; and

utilizing the master optical information recording medium in a duplication device to duplicate a recorded content of the master optical information recording medium on a second optical information recording medium.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 32, wherein the duplication device includes a stamper configured to impress the recorded content of the master optical information recording medium into the second optical information recording medium.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 32, wherein in the case where a regenerative signal obtained from the master optical information recording

medium is binary-coded at a predetermined slice level so as to generate a binary-coded signal, an irradiation timing of the laser beam is corrected so that the binary-coded signal is variable on the basis of a predetermined basic period, and the pit length is varied in accordance with the second information on the basis of the first information.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 32, wherein the second information is expressed by a positional information of a polar coordinate with respect to the master optical information recording medium.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 32, wherein a power of the laser beam is modulated to be variable in accordance with the second information according to a time axis.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 34, wherein the irradiation timing of the laser beam is corrected according to a correction data stored in a correction data storing means.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 34, wherein a power of the laser beam is controlled so that the pit change based on the second information is gradually carried out according to a time axis.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 38, wherein a transition area of the pit change based on the second information ranges from 0.1 mm to 1 mm.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): An apparatus for duplicating an optical information recording medium, which records data overlapping a visible second information on a first information on a master optical information recording medium by intermittently irradiating a laser beam to form a sequence of pits, the apparatus comprising:

means for generating a positional information so that the second information is recorded in a predetermined area in a radial direction and an angular direction on the master optical information recording medium;

means for modulating a laser beam power so that the second information is recorded according to a change of a pit width based on a change of power of the laser beam, a change of a pit length based on an on/off control of the laser beam, or a change of width within only a portion of the length of the pit based on a change in the vicinity of the on/off control of the laser beam; and

means for duplicating a recorded content of the master optical information recording medium on a second optical information recording medium.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein the means for duplicating includes a stamper configured to impress the recorded content of the master optical information recording medium data into the second optical information recording medium.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein in the case where a regenerative signal obtained from the master optical information recording medium is binary-coded at a predetermined slice level so as to generate a binary-coded signal, an irradiation timing of the laser beam is corrected so that the binary-coded signal is

variable on the basis of a predetermined basic period, and the pit length is varied in accordance with the second information on the basis of the first information.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein the second information is expressed by a positional information of a polar coordinate with respect to the master optical information recording medium.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein a power of the laser beam is modulated to be variable in accordance with the second information according to a time axis.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to Claim 42, wherein the irradiation timing of the laser beam is corrected according to a correction data stored in a correction data storing means.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to Claim 42, wherein a power of the laser beam is controlled so that the pit change based on the second information is gradually carried out according to a time axis.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein a transition area of the pit change based on the second information ranges from 0.1 mm to 1 mm.

Claims 48-51 (Cancelled).